

**CALIFORNIA WILDLAND FIRE COORDINATING GROUP
CHARTER
MARCH 26, 2007**

Authorization

The California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) members are authorized by each of their respective agency administrators and work under the various Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreements in place for California. (See list of authorities and agreements, attached as Appendix A)

Mission Statement

The CWCG is established to further interagency cooperation, communications and coordination, and to implement interagency fire management direction.

Purpose

- (1) Provide interagency leadership and coordinated implementation of fire management policies, directions and standards
- (2) Instill professionalism in all aspects of fire management and develop a full partnership, trust and mutual assistance among the wildland fire protection entities.
- (3) Establish committees/task groups/teams to support CWCG activities.
- (4) Recommend a unified course of action to Geographic Area agency administrators in order to promote safety and provide oversight in all aspects of fire and incident management:
 - Firefighter and Public Safety
 - Ecosystem Management
 - Wildland Urban Interface
 - Prevention and education
 - Fuels and resource management
 - Fire Management Planning and Fire Program Analysis (FPA)
- (5) Provide input to geographic area interagency safety and training programs, as needed
- (6) Approve national nominations to S-520 / S-620
- (7) Facilitate efficiencies in all California incident operations at all levels including;
 - Select and manage National Type I and Fire Use teams
 - Provide oversight and coordinate selection and management of CALFIRE Incident Command Teams (ICT) and Federal Type II teams
 - Nominate Area Command team candidates
 - Monitor and evaluate the performance of National Type I and Fire Use teams (See Appendix B for evaluation guide)

- Provide oversight and monitor the performance evaluation of CALFIRE ICTs and Federal Type II teams
- Serve as the California Multi-Agency Coordination Group (CALMAC)
- Monitor Geographic Area Coordination Center performance and resolve issues as necessary
- Approve the Geographic Area Mobilization Guide
- Recommend policy changes to agency administrators
- Serve as the geographic area(s) focal point for national and local requests requiring interagency action

Membership

The California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) will be made up of the State level Fire Managers from:

- (1) United States Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (USFS)
- (2) Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region (BIA)
- (3) CALFIRE Contract County Representative
- (4) National Park Service, Pacific West Region (NPS)
- (5) Bureau of Land Management, California (BLM)
- (6) Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue (OES)
- (7) Fish and Wildlife Service, California / Nevada Operations (FWS)
- (8) California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)

Agency representatives will be responsible to ensure that respective agency policy and procedures are maintained and agency administrators are informed. The members will coordinate recommendations for agency acceptance and implementation.

A representative from both North and South Operation Centers will serve as technical advisors to CWCG.

Chair and Vice Chair

A Chair and Vice Chair serve on a one-year rotational basis, and follow the order of the membership roster, above. The Vice Chair will succeed the Chair. In the event a vacancy should occur at either the Chair or Vice Chair positions the rotation order will move up to fill the vacancy.

Meetings

The CWCG will have quarterly meetings and have additional meetings as needed. The quarterly meetings will typically be held on the second Tuesday of January, April, July, and October.

An agenda will be developed by the Chair. Agendas and action items requiring CWCG decisions are to be distributed to the membership prior to each meeting.

Minutes of each meeting will be kept and copies will be posted on the CWCG website (<http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/administrative/cwcg.htm>) and forwarded to CWCG members and the signatory agency administrators. The Chair will make arrangements for a note taker at each meeting.

Standing Committees

Standing Committees are identified to assist the CWCG. The CWCG will provide direction and oversight of Committee activities.

Each committee will have a charter with a mission and a purpose statement. Committee charters will be reviewed and approved by the CWCG (See Appendices C – G).

The following is a list of Standing Committees, including intent for each:

- Training – develop training strategies and programs to ensure and improve interagency wildland fire management capacity over time
- Operations – provide coordination of interagency efforts to improve operational consistency and capacity in the areas of:
 - Prevention
 - Dispatch / ECC
 - Aviation Operations
 - Operations Safety
- California Interagency Incident Finance Advisory Group – develop strategies and processes to improve interagency consistency and capacity in the areas of cost apportionment, reimbursement, and fiscal efficiency
- GACC Federal Type II Team Management Boards (2) – select and manage Federal Type II teams within the GACC. Improve capacity and ability to provide qualified members for national Type I incident management teams
- CALFIRE Incident Command Team Management Board – select and manage CALFIRE ICTs. Improve capacity and ability to provide qualified members for national Type I incident management teams

Each committee will elect a chairperson. Minutes of meetings or key decisions and action items will be documented and distributed to CWCG. Committee chairpersons or their representatives will report to the CWCG as requested. Committees may organize groups to accomplish specific objectives. Task groups will disband upon completion of the work assignment.

The CWCG will designate one of its members as a liaison to each committee.

Expenses

The costs of salary, travel, per diem, and operating expenses for CWCG, Standing Committee and Task Group members will be borne by the member's agency.

The CWCG will determine how to cover costs of special projects.

Appendices

- A. Agreements and Authorities
- B. National Type I and Fire Use Team Evaluation Guide
- C. Training Committee Charter
- D. Operations Committee Charter
- E. California Interagency Incident Finance Advisory Group Charter
- F. GACC Federal Type II Team Management Boards (2) Charters
- G. CALFIRE Incident Command Team Management Board Charter

Signatures by Agency



Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

7-31-07

Date

Director, Cal Fire

Date

Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

Date

Director, OES

Date

State Director, BLM California

Date

Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS

Date

Signatures by Agency

Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

Date



Director, Cal Fire



Date

Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

Date

Director, OES

Date

State Director, BLM California

Date

Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

**Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS**

Date

Signatures by Agency

Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

Date

Director, Cal Fire

Date



Acting **Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS**

7-16-07

Date

Director, OES

Date

State Director, BLM California

Date

Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

**Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS**

Date

Signatures by Agency

Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

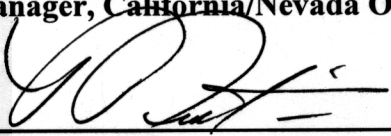
Date

Director, Cal Fire

Date

Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

Date



Director, OES

Date

State Director, BLM California

Date

Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

**Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS**

Date

Signatures by Agency

Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

Date

Director, Cal Fire

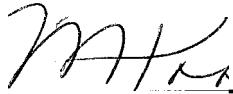
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Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

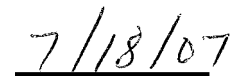
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Director, OES

Date



State Director, BLM California



Date

Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

**Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS**

Date

Signatures by Agency

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Director, Cal Fire

Date

Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

Date

Director, OES

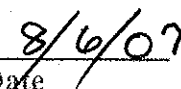
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State Director, BLM California

Date



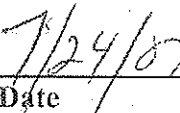
Contract Counties Representative



Date



Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS



Date

Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS

Date

Signatures by Agency

Regional Director, Pacific Region, BIA

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Director, Cal Fire

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Manager, California/Nevada Operations, FWS

Date

Director, OES

Date

State Director, BLM California

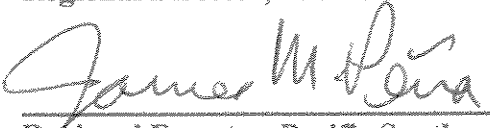
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Contract Counties Representative

Date

Regional Director, Pacific West Region, NPS

Date

for 

Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,
USFS

7/19/07

Date

Authorities

Cooperative Fire Protection Agreements between Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior, and the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the State of California. These agreements are implemented under the authorities of:

- The Reciprocal Fire Act of May 27, 1955 (42 USC 1856a, P. L. 84-46)
- Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, as amended (16 USC 2101-2114, P.L. 95-313)
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288 as amended)
- Economy Act of June 30, 1932, (31 U.S.C., 1535 as amended)
- Disaster Relief Act of May 22, 1974, (42 U.S.C. 5121 as amended)
- Homeland Security Act of 2002 (H.R. 5005-8)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5)
- California Public Resources Code, Section 4125 to 4127 and 4141
- California Government Code, Section 8619

Agreements

- Interagency Agreement for Fire Management between Department of Interior (BLM, BIA, NPS, FWS) and Department of Agriculture (USFS)
- California Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement